

humble Virgin of Nazareth, who nourished with her sacred milk Him who gives life to all creatures, is raised above all the stars, and that thence she reigns supremely over this city and this diocese. '*O gloriosa Domina, excelsa super sidera.*'—[O glorious lady, exalted above the stars!]

"The Queen, full of goodness, will appear to us standing. '*Astitit Regina.*'—[The Queen stood.] This is to show us that she is always ready to come to our help. Her eyes, in which all the graces of mercy are depicted, will be continually open to our wants, and fixed on the land which is consecrated to her, and which is all her own. Yes! she will behold our woes, and to us miserable children of Adam she will truly be the lady of Bonsecours—[the Lady of Good Help.] '*Auxilium Christianorum—illos tuos misericordes oculos ad nos converte.*'—[Thou help of Christians, turn to us thy merciful eyes.] Her hands, full of blessings, will be night and day stretched forth to her children who dwell in this valley of tears. She will receive them with the tenderness of a mother, as often as they shall repair to her, casting themselves into her arms, and exclaiming with confidence, '*Sancta Maria, succurre miseris.*'—[Holy Mary, succour the miserable.] Her head will be crowned with stars, like that glorious lady whom St. John in the Apocalypse saw: for she is indeed the star of the sea, and the hope of the sailor. Thus will he joyfully salute her, whenever he enters or quits the port,—'*Ave Maris stella.*'—[Hail, star of the sea!] She will be the first object that the eye of the stranger will discover from afar; and if he shall ask what is the meaning of the object that he beholds, his praiseworthy curiosity will be satisfied as he reads those words, '*Mary protect this place—Marianopolis Tutela.*' Should he inquire on

what ground this rests, Mary herself will tell him, by explaining the inscription, '*Posuerunt me custodem.*'—[They appointed me its keeper]:—'Those who landed on this shore two hundred years ago, and founded this city, entrusted its guardianship to me.'

"Finally, we have been powerfully moved to celebrate this ceremony before the close of the navigation, by a consideration which we will proceed to adduce. You know, dearly beloved brethren, that that terrible disease, the cholera, which visited us in 1832 and 1834, is now spreading its ravages, in a frightful manner, over the old world. We should be sorry to agitate your minds with false alarms, by predicting a third visit of that fearful plague. Nevertheless, we cannot conceal the fact that this destructive epidemic is taking precisely the same course as it did before. It is therefore our duty, instead of abandoning you to childish fears, to adopt wise precautions, by which the destroying plague may be averted from us.

"When any contagious disease \*<sup>r</sup>eatens a city or a country, the watchful magistrates, foreseeing the danger, do not fail to drain pestilential marshes, to purify all places which are likely to be the scenes of desolation and death, and, in a word, to adopt wise measures, in order to present, if possible, an impenetrable barrier to the epidemic.

"A much more difficult duty is to be discharged by all pastors, in times of calamity. It is to sacrifice themselves for their flocks, and to labour that fruits worthy of repentance may be produced. For it is in vain that man sets the watch in the city, unless God himself takes care of it. '*Nisi dominus custodierit civitatem, frustra vigilat qui custodit eam.*'—[Unless the Lord keep the city, he watches in vain who keeps it.] This applies especially to the disease from which we are now anxious to be preserved,